



Glenn Research Center



# Droplet Combustion Experiment (DCE)

## Study of Spherical Droplets Burning without Gravity Effects



Large droplet burning  
in normal gravity



Large droplet burning  
in microgravity



Excited OH radicals  
imaged in microgravity



Practical combustors depend on  
knowledge of droplet combustion

Droplets in practical, normal gravity  
systems are spherical but microscopic:

- Difficult to observe and measure
- Unaffected by gravity